No. of Accounts in lakhs Amount in Rs. crores

State	*September, 1989*		*September, 1990*	
	No of account	*Amount outstanding*	*No. of account*	*Amount Outstanding*
Gujarat	12.85	558.30	12.22	613.77
Rajasthan	8.16	493.16	9.13	529.37

The data reporting system does not generate district–wise break–up of the information given above.

Terrorist Activities in Gulf of Mannar

4922. SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Government to stop the terrorist activities in the Gulf of Mannar;

(b) the number of fishermen killed by the terrorists during the last three years;

(c) whether the Union Government have given any compensation to the families of the deceased;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) The Indian Navy/ Coast Guard have enhanced their patrolling/ air surveillance over the Gulf of Mannar in order to, *inter alia,* check the infiltration of terrorists.

(b) As per information conveyed by the Government of Tamil Nadu, 7 Indian fishermen are reported to have been killed by terrorists in the Gulf of Mannar during the last three years.

(c) to (e). No compensation has been paid by the Union Government. However, the Tamil Nadu Government have reported that they paid a sum of Rs. 12,000.00 to the next–of–kin of six fishermen from the Chief Minister's Public Relief Fund. The next–of–kin of one fisherman was paid Rs. 15,000.00 by the National Federation of Fishermen Cooperative Society Ltd. New Delhi, as the deceased fisherman was a member of the said Society.

National Centre for Jute Diversification

4923. DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR:
SHRIMATI MAHENDRA KUMARI:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to set up a National Centre for Jute Diversification at Calcutta;

(b) if so, the main objectives thereof; and

(c) the time by which the centre is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) It has been decided to set up a National Centre for Jute Diversification at Calcutta with its Regional Centre at NOIDA.

(b) The Centre would assist in transfer of technology from B &D institutions to the entrepreneurs organise entreprenurial development programmes, provide linkages between entrepreneurs and other agencies including financial institutions, interact amongst R&D institutions, manufacturing firms and end user industries to create awareness regarding diversified jute goods, conduct market surveys, publicity and promotional campaigns in the leading consumer centres.

(c) Some of the activities of the Centre will commence in 1991–92.

L.I.C. Mutual Fund Scheme for Women Investors

4924. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the L.I.C. mutual fund has launched any scheme for women investors, and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The 'Dhanalakshmi' Scheme of the LIC Mutual Fund envisages sale of Units at a face value of Rs. 10 each to female resident citizens of India. Male residents are allowed to apply as second and/or third applicants only. Minor female citizens can, however, apply through their parents/step–parents/guardians. The scheme envisages two options for payment of dividend– Flexible Dividend Plan (Option 1) where the dividend declared after the end of each accounting year is payable in single instalment or in 2 or 3 or 4 equal instalment, along with specified interest, and the Dividend Accumulation Plan (Option 2) where the dividend declared will get automatically reinvested in the scheme and additional Units will be allowed against the same on the selling price prevailing at that time.

Opening of Branches by RRBS in Jamnagar and Bhavnagar Districts of Gujarat

4925. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the guidelines laid for opening the branches of Regional Rural Banks;

(b) the names of places in Jamnagar and Bhavnagar district of Gujarat where branches of RRBs were opened during the last three years and in 1991; and till 31 October; and

(c) the names of places in these districts where branches of RRBs are proposed to be opened during the next three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (c). Under the extant policy of Reserve Baank of India (RBI) applications from Regional Rural Banks (RRB s) for new branches in their areas of operations will be considered by RBI on merits of each case, specially looking into the viability of such branches, the Service Area Approach to rural lending, and the existing number of branches of the RRB.

For opening of branches in rural areas the list of identified centres with necessary particulars in each District has to be given to the lead bank of that District. The lead bank after consolidating lists received from all banks submits it to the District Collector for recommendation and onward transmission to RBI through the State Government concerned. Therefore, under the Branch Licensing Policy (1990–95) opening of branches of public sector banks including RRBs is a continuous process and it is no possible to project the number of branches